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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY

East Germany

DATE-DIST. 15 April 1955

SUBJECT

Price Changes for Raw Materials in Heavy Industry

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1. The East German Council of Ministers decided at its 9 December 1954 meeting that the Praesidium of the Council of Ministers would discuss **changes** in the prices for wood and steel in February 1955. The State Planning Commission and the Ministry for Finance were **requested** to prepare a resolution on the subject for the Praesidium's consideration.

2. In addition, the Ministry for Finance was ordered to set up a working party to control the preservation of the price code and to prepare a resolution on price control, particularly for raw materials.

3. The pending **price changes** were subsequently also discussed at the meeting of the Ministry for Heavy Industry's Kollegium 17-18 December, 1954. Members of the Kollegium supported the need for price changes in some fields. It was noted, for example, that the Shaft Building Plant (Schachtbaubetrieb) under the Geological Commission of the Ministry was still doing its work for third parties ("Dritte") at 1944 prices. Specifically cited as requiring adjustments were the so-called **mixed price (Mischpreis)** for electrical power and the price of coal used by power plants, the latter to be based on the **caloric** value of the coal.

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4. [redacted] while new prices would be instituted for steel and iron, the pricing of other products, particularly those of the chemical industry, must be carried out in such a way that the general price level remained undisturbed.

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